

# The Southwester

Contact us at 202-554-8560 or thesouthwester@yahoo.com. See current and past issues on our website www.swdc.org.

February 2007

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FREE!

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## Great African Americans

(Article compiled from information taken from encyclopedias and the Internet)



### Coretta Scott King

Coretta Scott King was the matriarch of all African American women. She walked the earth with resilience and an untouchable spirit of authority for the advancement of civil rights and non violence in America as well as the rest of the world.

Now her legacy reigns throughout the history of generations that tells the story of the plight of a courageous leader, who protected the struggle for justice, by her commitment, love and understanding.

Coretta Scott King was a moral enigma who possessed the spiritual dignity and fortitude to keep alive the labor that made a difference for the positive changes for equal rights.

Continued on Page 7

## SWNA Looking For Candidates for March Election

New Officers and Members of the Board of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will be elected in open elections Saturday Mar. 24th at Waterside Mall, 401 M St. S.W.

Any resident of Near Southwest (Zip Code 20024) who is age 18 and up is eligible to vote and to be elected. Write-ins are allowed. To be on the printed ballot a person must be suggested by the nominating committee or nominated from the floor at the Mon. Feb 26th SWNA meeting. So, please be thinking about running.

Call in your suggestions to Naomi Monk at 202/479-0442.

Everyone living in Southwest can vote for the officers – (president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, treasurer). However, the other members of the Board are elected by their own neighbors who live in each of the four individual districts. Not sure of your district? Check this list.

### If you live here You live in District:

Capital Park Plaza	2
Capital Yacht Club	1
Capitol Park II	2
Capitol Park IV	2
Capitol Park Towers	2
Capitol Park Twin Towers	2

Capitol Square	2
Carrollsborg Place	4
Carrollsborg Mews	4
Carrollsborg, A Condominiums	3
Carrollsborg Street	4
Channel Square	3
Edgewater Condominiums	3
First Street	4
Gangplank Marina	1
Greenleaf Annex	2
Greenleaf Family	4
Greenleaf Senior	4
Half Street	4
Harbour Square	3
Howison Place	4
James Creek	4
Marina View Towers	1
O Street	4
P Street	4
Potomac Place	2
Q Street	4
River Park	3
Riverside	3
Second Street	4
Seventh (bet. I-G)	1
Seventh (bet. M-N)	3
South Capitol Street	4
St James Mutual Homes	3
Syphax Gardens	4
Tel Court Cooperatives	4
Tiber Island	3
Town Center Plaza	2

Town House Management One Inc.	1
Town Square Commons	1
Town Square III	1
Town Square IV	1
Town Square Towers	1
Waterside Towers	1

If you are interested in running, please call Naomi at 202/479-0442 and submit a bio of 50 words to the *Southwester* by Feb. 5th for inclusion in the paper which comes out at the end of February.

### SWNA General Meeting – Monday, January 22, 2007 7:30 p.m. St. Augustine's

All DC elected officials have been invited to speak. This is your chance to come and hear about their plans for Southwest coming in the next month.

### February Meeting

February SWNA General Meeting (February 26, 2007)– will be about Black History with participation from the schools. And, the nominating committee will report on nominees.

## Councilmember Tommy Wells Officially On Duty

By Naomi Mitchell & Ron McBee

Our newly elected Ward 6 Councilmember, Tommy Wells has taken the oath of office and moved into his new office located in Suite 408 of the John A. Wilson Building at 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. His first official act as Councilmember was to administer the oath of office to all of the Ward 6 ANC Commissioners and later in the day to Lisa Raymond, the newly elected Board of Education member for our ward. Tommy also attended the January 8, 2007 Southwest ANC 6D meeting to discuss his future goals as Councilmember.

Tommy will chair the Council's Committee on Human Services. The committee has oversight on the District's child and family services, youth rehabilitation

services, disability and mental retardation services and the Children and Youth Investment Trust. In addition, he will sit on the Committees for Housing and Urban Affairs, Public Services and Consumer Affairs, and Libraries, Parks and Recreation.

In some of his first public remarks, Tommy placed a high priority on providing excellent constituent services to the residents of Ward 6. He announced that he would be putting a special focus in the Southwest area with regular breakfast meetings at the Channel Inn so that he can continue to keep a strong presence in the neighborhood and be accessible for residents. His office said full details would be announced soon.

He encouraged Ward 6 residents to feel free to contact his office at 202-724-8072.



Tommy Wells new Ward 6 Council member.

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# Southeastern University

## Center for Entrepreneurship (CfE)

### Personal, Practical, Professional

## January 2007 Calendar of Events

**You must register!**

### Seminars

#### How to Jump Start Your Business

**Cost:** FREE!

**Time:** Wednesday, January 24th, from 6:30-9pm

**Location:** SEU, 501 I Street, SW

**Metro:** Waterfront-SEU

#### National Capital Revitalization Corporation LSDBE Institute

*January 2007 Classes*

#### Local Small Disadvantage Business Enterprise Marketing

**Cost:** \$50

**Time:** Thursday, January 25th, from 6:30-9pm

**Location:** SunTrust Bank, 1445 New York Avenue, NW

**Metro:** McPherson Sq.

This course is designed to help business owners go beyond the four Ps of marketing. They will learn how to determine who their market is, where they are, how to target them, how to set pricing, product development, how to use certifications and procurement to market their products

(LSDBE, SDB, GSA and DC Schedules), develop a marketing strategy and plan, and basic ad creation.

**REGISTER NOW**

The Center for Entrepreneurship offers a distinctive business training experience for current and aspiring business owners. Courses are targeted for those who are interested in building the capacity and revenue of their businesses. To register, please **call us at (202) 478-8231**. Visit our website at [www.seu.edu](http://www.seu.edu). You can also email us at [entrepreneur@seu.edu](mailto:entrepreneur@seu.edu).

#### LSDBE Marketing

**Cost:** \$50

**Time:** Thursday, January 25th, from 6:30-9pm

**Location:** SunTrust Bank, 1445 New York Avenue, NW

**Metro:** McPherson Sq.

This course is designed to help business owners go beyond the four Ps of marketing. They will learn how to determine who their market is, where they are, how to target them, how to set pricing, product development, how to use certifications and procurement to market their products (LSDBE, SDB, GSA and DC Schedules), develop a marketing strategy and plan, and basic ad creation.

*February 2007 Classes*

#### LSDBE Human Resources Management I

**Cost:** \$50

**Time:** Wednesday, February 7th, from 6:30-9:30 pm

**Location:** SunTrust Bank, 1445 New York Avenue, NW

**Metro:** McPherson Sq.

This course will cover basic principals of human resource management and organizational behavior, and will focus on issues related to evaluating what positions

## Southwest Community Calendar

### February 2 to February 26, 2007

**FRI. FEB. 2** \$20 Southwest Night at Arena Stage 8 pm

**TUES. FEB. 6** Police Citizens Advisory Council, 415 4th St SW, 7 pm

**MON. FEB. 12** Open meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D, St. Augustine's Church, 6th & M SW, 7 pm

**THURS. FEB. 15** Police PSA 104, 7 pm at Town Square Towers Condominium Apartments 700 - 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

**SAT. FEB. 17** \$5 public breakfast, Christ Methodist Church, 4th & I (Eye) St. SW - entrance across from SW Library

**MON. FEB. 19** Presidents Day Holiday

**WED. FEB. 21** AARP lunch, River Park, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW, 12 noon

**THURS. FEB. 22** NARFE, SW Library, K St. & Wesley Pl SW, 12:30 pm

**MON. FEB. 26** SWNA Monthly public meeting, St. Augustine's Church, M & 6th St. SW, 7:30 pm

**WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY**

**KOMEN TOASTMASTERS** - First & Third Sat., S.W. Library, 10 am.

**FIL-AM TOASTMASTERS** - Second & Fourth Wed., S.W. Library, 6:15 pm.

**SCHOOL ST. TOASTMASTERS** - Every Tues., 400 Virginia Ave. S.W., Room 488 - noon.

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS Club** - First & Third Wed., Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block of I (Eye) St. S.W., 7 pm 202-291-6229.

**S.W. KIWANIS** - First & Third Mon., Christ United Methodist Church, 4th & I St. S.W., 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

**NEW SOUTHWEST TOASTMASTERS** - Every Wed. GSA Bldg - 7th & D St. S.W., Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon.

**LABYRINTH WALK** - First & Third Wed., Westminster Church, 4th & I St., SW, 7 pm.

*Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Monday, February 5.*

are needed in small businesses.

#### LSDBE Human Resources Management II

**Cost:** \$50

**Time:** Wednesday, February 14th, from 6:30-9pm

**Location:** SunTrust Bank, 1445 New York Avenue, NW

**Metro:** McPherson Sq.

This course will teach how to create staffing plans, write position descriptions, hiring, firing, sexual harassment, discrimination, creating staff manuals, payroll management, benefits, taxes, managing small staffs, and family business management.

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## The Southwester

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*Deadline for next edition, ads or text:  
Monday, February 5, 2007.*

#### Advertising Rates

Black & White: Quarter page \$140; Half page \$275; Full page \$550; smaller sizes \$11 per col. in.

Full color: add \$100 for a full page, \$50 for less than a page.

Inserts \$50 per thousand.

Classified Ads—\$1 per word

**Ad deadline** *Monday, February 5*

## SWNA Moving

SWNA is going to be moving out of the Waterfront building during the month of January to make way for the new construction and the opening of 4th Street. Storage space has been donated by River Park; President of the Board, Ray Olsen has been instrumental. Pallets were donated by Harbour Square and all discarded paper will be recycled by Harbour Square. At this time no temporary "office space" for the Southwester has been secured. They

will move into new "digs" in the Waterfront building when it is completed.

The Assembly will continue to hold monthly General Meetings at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Board Meetings will move around the neighborhood to small meeting rooms in several of the buildings in Southwest. The telephone number will remain the same, 202/554-8560 and leave a message. Someone will return your call.

## Black History Month

**Black History Month Films** will be shown on Feb 4, (Sunday) Feb 10 & 17 (Saturday) at the SW Library. MLK Library will not have their Feb. schedule ready before the Southwester is distributed.



## Citizens 1D Crime Summit

By Stephanie Nixon

**D**ate: Saturday 2/3/07, Time: 10 am - 3:30 pm, Place: Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 1636 East Capitol St., NE (Stadium Armory Metro Stop)

This is for Police District 1D which includes Near Southwest. The following is a rough sketch of the breakout topics. There is still time for you send them your ideas. Remember this is about each of you in 1D and finding solutions to the crime in your neighborhoods at a more global level. Government officials will be there more to listen to the ideas of citizens and take these to the various agencies.

A multilateral approach is needed to maintain the momentum of driving crime down, so let's work together and learn from one another.

They will have information on city agencies and phone numbers outside of auditorium on tables with representatives present - or without - encourage early arrival.

10 -10:15 am Introduction of people and the event - and set out the aims

10:15-10:45 Tommy Wells and Commander Groomes - discuss the importance of the issue and begin validating the problems at hand

11 am - noon Groups 1 and 2 meet

on topics determined by response from the ANC, MPD and other community listservs, meetings, and groups - these will be set up in a manner to encourage a solution - assign people randomly to these groups - there will be two groups meeting at a time.

Noon - 1 pm Lunch supplied. provide an informal 20 minute talk about the ins and outs of the judiciary committee and how legislation passes through and communication and feedback from public - this would occur during lunch with the remaining time to be spent with the community talking and interacting as they eat.

1 - 2 pm Groups 2 and 3 meet to discuss two additional issues brought up and consider solutions

2 - 3 pm Spokespeople from groups present solution for the issues to the groups. 15 minutes per group

3 - 3:30 pm Tommy Wells and Comdr. Groomes close out the session by discussing next steps and what the public can do - lay out future directions and approximate time lines.

At the end, allow some time for individuals from the group to stand around and talk with the government officials.

Call Stephanie Nixon to RSVP - 202/222-8570

## Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (ANC6D) Offers up to \$1,000.00 Grant Awards Applicants: Three Times a Year

By Naomi Monk

**A**NC6D Commissioners are honored to have awarded five grants during the year of January - December 2006, its first year of the Outreach Grant Awards Program. These grant awards are:

### Proposed Project/Organization/ Grant Amount

■ Improving and Expanding Internet Connectivity, Amidon PTA - \$ 400.00

■ Videotaping of Lindsay Family Bass and Percussion Ensemble, Community Help in Music Education (CHIME) - \$500.00

■ Weekly Reader Subscriptions, Southwest KidSafe Center - \$500.00

■ The Probing Robotics for Observation of Mars to Inspire Students Engineers (PROMISE) Program, Jefferson High School PTA - \$1,000.00

■ Peace Memorial Garden, Southwest Residents and Tourists & Other Residents Group - \$1,000.00

Grants awards are approved for up to \$1,000.00, three times a year if approved accord to the guidelines furnished on website [www.anc6d.org](http://www.anc6d.org). Scroll down on the left side of the front page, and click you mouse on Library to the Guidelines and grant award application. Presently, \$7,600.00 dollars are available for projects that benefit residents in Southwest and Near Southwest, DC.

For more information contact, ANC6D Outreach Grant Awards Committee, Chair, Naomi J. Monk [atnmonk10501@aol.com](mailto:atnmonk10501@aol.com) or call her at 202-479-0442.

ANC6D Outreach Grant Awards **public** monthly committee meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at 4 pm at 240 M Street, SW, Carrollsborg, A Condominium, Thelma Martin Room, located on the first floor.

## ANC Meeting - January 8, 2007

By Max Skolnik, ANC Commissioner

Highlights from Advisory Neighborhood Commission Meeting:

• **City Council:** Councilman Tommy Wells introduced himself at the meeting.

• **Neighborhood Services:** New Ward 6 Services Coordinator Hiram Brewton ([hiram.brewton@dc.gov](mailto:hiram.brewton@dc.gov)) and Ward 6 Outreach Coordinator Simone Green ([simone.green@dc.gov](mailto:simone.green@dc.gov)) introduced themselves as well. They are available to handle a variety of neighborhood issues, including trash, noise, etc.

• **Community Benefits:** ANC 6D approved a community benefits package with Monument Realty in exchange for approval of an alley closing application. Details include housing preferences for neighborhood residents, a contribution to the SW scholarship fund, and \$50,000 to be used at either Amidon ES or Jefferson JHS for physical improvements.

• **Marina View:** ANC 6D voted to set up a delegation to negotiate with the Marina View Towers developers.

• **ANC Elections:** ANC 6D elected Roger Moffat as Chairperson, Andy Litsky as Vice-Chair, Rhonda Hamilton as Secretary, and Max Skolnik as Treasurer.

• **ANC Committees:** I need to nominate candidates for our Committees. There are vacancies in the Community Outreach (neighborhood grants) and the ABC (alcohol-related issues) committees. Please contact me as soon as possible if you're interested.

**Senate Cleaners in Waterside Mall will be CLOSING PERMANENTLY on Feb. 28.**

**We will continue to take clothing until Feb. 24.**

**Please pick up your orders before Feb. 28.**

*Thank you for your patronage.*

## frankie and johnny in the clair de lune

by Terrence McNally  
directed by David Muse  
February 23 through April 8, 2007  
in the Kreeger



"Pretend that we're the only two people in the entire world, that's what I'm doing, and it all falls into place." Johnny, a short-order cook in a diner, goes home with Frankie, a waitress, for a one-night stand. Both are past their prime, having seen their share of hard life and painful love. But Johnny knows the real thing when he sees it, and he is desperate to crack Frankie's hardened heart before she sends him home and they lose their chance at true love. Celebrated playwright Terrence McNally (*Love! Valor! Compassion!*, *Master Class*) delivers a witty, intimate and romantic play about the forging of a relationship between two lonely mid-life lovers.

**Don't miss Southwest Night March 2!**

*This show contains nudity, adult situations, language and themes.*

**arena stage**  
molly smith  
artistic director

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Groups of 15+ save - call (202) 488-4380 (202) 484-0247 (TTY)

## ANC SMD 6D03 Election Vacated

**M**ary Williams who was certified as the winner by 13 votes over Ron McBee had the election results vacated by the Board of Election and Ethics (BOEE). BOEE recently certified the recall of Ms. Williams but was overturned on appeal due to a technical copying error of the petition sheets. The results of the November election were vacated as the BOEE incorrectly designated a residential building in SMD 6D03, 350 G St SW, as being in SMD 6D02 and qualified electors were denied an opportunity to vote in the contest than the margin of victory.



## Southwest AARP Celebrates



Above, Ray Williams, president of the local chapter of AARP



Ben and Jennie Lemlich, long time AARP members

A holiday party for senior citizens was staged by Police District 1 at King Greenleaf Recreation Center



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## The SWWR

By Sam Tramel

The South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative (SWWR) held its annual meeting on December 20th to celebrate accomplishments for 2006 with over 100 community residents, clients and partners at Westminster Presbyterian Church on I Street, SW. This event reinforces the Collaborative's effort to report out to the community its work with children, youth, and families on an ongoing basis. SWWR is proud of its services, successes and accomplishments for 2006. 214 families with 394 children received case management services from SWWR's staff and partners. 6 community workshops and skill-building forums were held with over 124 parents in attendance; 160 parents participated in the weekly Parent Support Groups and 38 parents completed the Parent Education Program. 20 families were assisted in locating affordable housing.

SWWR acknowledged three "Families of the Year" who were recognized for the success they had in making positive changes and strengthening their families.

Also acknowledged were the many partner agencies and volunteers who shared in the successful work done with families over the past year. Samuel Tramel, Executive Director, delivered the state of the collaborative and said, "It Takes a Village to raise a child. Today we see change, a chance to build upon a new spirit with intent provoked by passion, ideas and true partnerships that impact lives. SWWR is not an isolated agency, but the culmination of many partners, volunteers and residents collaborating together to strengthen families, children and communities."

If you are interested in volunteering, donating or speaking with a worker about receiving services or connecting with a needed resource, SWWR has the following locations: Family Center #1 is located at 1501 Half Street, SW Suite 31, Family Center #2 is located at 1229 G Street, SE (Potomac Garden's Senior Building). Our Parent Support Group is held every Monday at St. Augustine Church, 600 M Street, SW every Monday at 6:00pm. The main number to South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative is 202-488-7997.

## Christmas Madness Basketball Tournament

By Ronald "Horse" Hines

The Christmas Madness Basketball Tournament 2006 was a great success. It was a joint effort between the staff at King Greenleaf Recreation and the staff of the #4 Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington. There were a total of sixteen teams that started the tournament. The players were between the ages of 10 and 12. The final four teams in the 10 and under division were the Vikings Black, F.B.R., the Vikings Gold and Woodbridge. In the 12 and under group were #4 Vikings Black vs Orr. The two Championship games, as well as the entire tournament, were exciting games.

In the end, there were two winners. In the 10 and under, it was Woodbridge, and in the 12 and under, it was #4 Vikings Black. The tournament lasted three days, December 28, 29 and 30th. Special thanks to the staff at both places. "Horse" was the tournament coordinator. There was a special guest, former B and G Club coach, Alvin Hudgen. He worked the table and score board. That guy never misses a beat. Also, a very, very special thanks to all of the volunteer officials who made this tournament successful.



Ronald "Horse" Hines & the 12 Year Old Champs, #4 Vikings Black.



10 Year Olds Runner-ups #4 Vikings.



# Mayor Adrian M. Fenty Announces Education Initiative

(Washington, DC) Today, District of Columbia Mayor Adrian M. Fenty unveiled his plan to provide the city's children with hope and opportunity through an education reform initiative. The plan would ensure rational, streamlined education policy by making the mayor accountable and responsible for managing DC Public Schools. Implementation of the plan rests on DC Council approval.

"We have a crisis on our hands. Over the past two decades, study after study has spelled out the same problems and made nearly the same recommendations. My proposal changes one critical piece of the puzzle—increased accountability and action. I am asking today for that responsibility to be placed squarely on my shoulders," said Mayor Adrian M. Fenty.

The following objectives were identified by Fenty as his Administration's top priorities to address critical challenges facing the District in the area of education. These recommendations were developed based on input from District residents as well as local and national experts:

- Ensure that all children start school ready to learn
- Improve transparency of and accountability for public education performance to ensure equal access to excellent public education
- Centralize State Education Agency functions

- Support the implementation of the research-based education reforms included in the Master Education Plan (MEP)

- Create an interagency, outcome-driven strategy for delivery of youth-related services in support of education

- Improve data systems in support of coordinated service delivery and increased transparency of program performance

- Increase responsiveness of public schools to constituent concerns and engage the community in support of public education

- Increase retention of quality principals and teachers

- Ensure that all public school students have access to appropriate facilities

- Improve access to and quality of Special Education services

- Improve access to and quality of Out-of-School-Time (OST) programs

- Ensure the continued success of District-based institutions of higher education

- Ensure school, university, employer, and community alignment in support of seamless transition from the education environment to the workforce

- Ensure a diversity of effective lifelong learning alternatives in the District of Columbia

Fenty also provided copies of the executive summary of a study conducted by

The Parthenon Group, a strategic advisory firm who has studied education issues in other jurisdictions. The study made a compelling case for a change in structural accountability. Key advantages of Mayoral

control described in the report include accelerated pace of reform, direct accountability for management and increased stability in leadership.

## Mayor Fenty Listens to Ward 6



Residents of Southwest DC and other parts of Ward 6 discussed issues and voiced their opinions at a community gathering in the King-Greenleaf Recreation Center on First and N SW.

Mayor-elect Adrian Fenty had organized the event and attended.

Mayor Adrian Fenty, at left, attended a gathering in SW on Dec. 13.

Below, part of the crowd discussing issues at the KGL Rec Center



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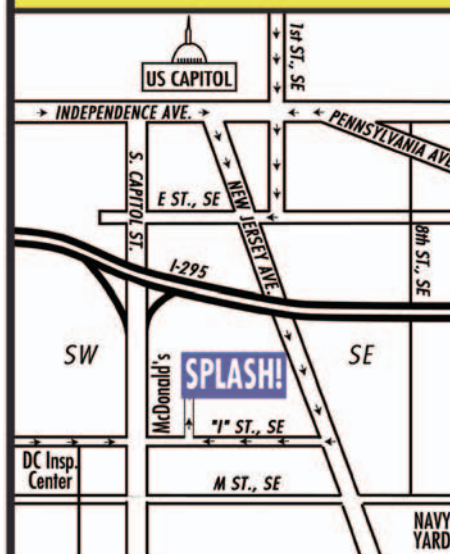
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## Wilson PTA Met At Jeff Jr. HS

By Dale MacIver

A roomful of Wilson High parents and staff crowded into the library at Jefferson Jr. High together with other SW parents to discuss how current eighth and ninth graders will become 9th and 10th graders at Wilson in the fall of 2007.

Wilson Principal (Dr.) Stephen Tarason assured all that Wilson welcomes Jeff students and wants to keep its current demographic mix as the largest general

public high school in the District. Wilson is known for having a mix of students from various ethnic groups and nationalities from every part of the District.

Wilson administrator Alex Wilson and other representatives of the PTA and staff described the variety of course offerings, sports and extra curricular activities that result in 80% of Wilson graduates attending college. Advance Placement courses and exams are especially promoted, with Wilson ranking in the top 4% of high schools nationwide.

## Wilson's Academies Let Students Specialize

By Dale MacIver

Wilson's five "small learning communities" called Academies help students in the 9th or 10th grade and above focus on their academic and career interests in preparation for college majors and careers. More than half of Wilson's students have joined an academy.

Application forms are available from counselors, Room 124 or on line at [www.wilsonhs.org](http://www.wilsonhs.org). They are due February 28, 2007, with interviews in March and assignment to academies to be announced Apr. 7.

The WISP Academy started in 1983, focusing on international studies, is open

to 9th and 10th graders and continues through grade 12.

The Academy of Finance and the Science, Math & Technology Academy both started 10 years ago and include student internships with companies and agencies in those fields.

The HAM Academy (for Humanities, Arts and Media) started in 2000 and involves local museums and theatres as well as weekly newspapers and AU's School of Journalism as community partners.

The fifth and newest academy is AAA, for Academic Athletic Achievement. Students are interested in careers in health, fitness, athletics, sports management, nutrition, coaching and training.

## Wilson HS Open Houses

By Dale MacIver

New Ninth and Tenth Graders planning to enter Wilson High in the fall of 2007 can attend open houses from 9 am to 11 am Fridays Mar. 2, Mar. 16 or April 13 or 27th at the school

## 9th Grade "Teams"

By Dale MacIver

With Wilson having 1400 students in grades 9-12, ninth graders are eased into the high school life by being grouped into "teams" of 120 students each, with classrooms mainly at one end of the school building and a set of 4 or 5 teachers of core subjects assigned to each team.

Required courses for 9th graders include Math, English, Biology, a Foreign Language and Ancient or Medieval History.

## NEWS of RELIGION

**St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**



14 M Street,  
S. E., (202)  
488-1354  
Confession  
- 7:30 a.m.  
Sunday  
Mass - 8:00  
a.m.

Weekday Mass - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 12:10 p.m.

You can reach Diane C. Roberts at (202) 889-3132 for additional information/comments.

## SW Library New Hours

By Ron McBee

The SW Library, 900 Wesley Place, SW (Wesley & K St.) is now open on Sunday from 1 to 5 PM. Go and let the staff there help you find that book you just heard about! Planning a trip and want to see travel information on your destination? They have DVDs as well. New to SW? Ask for "SW Remembered" which is about our community before the Redevelopment Land Agency (RLA). You can sign up to use computers and access the Internet. Also Wednesday at 4 PM is Arts and Crafts for all ages. Our library also has Movie Night on Thursday starting at 4 PM with story telling for children up to age 5. Of course all students are always welcome to come and use the resources of our local library. (M, W, 9:30 – 9 PM; T, F, Sat, 9:30 – 5:30 PM; Sun 1 – 5 PM; and 202-724-4752)



## GREAT

From p. 1

All women should remember her as the relentless soldier who empowered herself through the knowledge gained through education, where she achieved the principles to combat the struggle and to begin the competition of being equal, to all races and men.

Amen,



Saadia Athias

### Phillis Wheatley

Phillis Wheatley was an African American slave, who became an early American poet, and an intellectual prodigy. In 1761 at the age of seven or eight, Phillis was purchased by a Bostonian merchant, Mr. John Wheatley, for the use of his wife.. Mrs. Wheatley planned to prepare Phillis to replace the aging house slaves and to be her companion because her daughter Mary would be leaving soon.

Mary Wheatley taught Phillis to read and write. Phillis spent her time with books, at needlework, and some occasional furniture dusting, but was always free to write. She did not truly fit in with any group of people around her, slave or free. Phillis was exposed to many literary writers, clergy, and other members of Boston's society.

In 1773, in the hopes of improving her frail health, the Wheatleys sent Phillis to Europe in the care of their son. Twenty years of age, she seemed to enjoy her time there, and met many important persons. While Phillis was in London, her book of poetry, entitled *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, was published. Her stay in Europe was shortened by a plea from Mrs. Wheatley to return home, as Mrs. Wheatley's health was now in decline. Mrs. Wheatley died in 1784.

Prior to his death in 1778, Mr. Wheatley freed Phillis. Shortly thereafter, Phillis married an African American grocer, John Peters. The husband failed at his grocer business, as well as several other business attempts, keeping them in poverty. Phillis continued to write, but the struggling economy of the Colonies hindered her effort to make a living at it. To support herself and her family, Phillis "worked as a servant in her final years," doing the hard labor she never had to when a slave. Phillis eventually bore three children, all of

whom died of frail health the third shared a funeral with its mother. She was about 31 years old.

Wheatley's contribution to literature is important. First, in an era of subjugation of her race, she proved to have an intellect matching or superior to many of those considered her superiors. Second, she wrote in a style controlled by "rigid boundaries," the heroic couplets and the "ornate diction of neoclassicism" customary at the time (Richmond, 1974, p. 54).

The major themes of Phillis' poetry include religion, piety, morality, elegies, freedom, celebration, war, and death. In



my opinion her poetry is "exceptionally mature."

### Dr. Mark Dean

Dr. Mark Dean is a Ph.D. from Stanford University. He is in the National Hall of Inventors. He has more than 30 patents pending. He is a vice president with IBM. And he is also the architect of the modern-day personal computer. Dr. Dean holds three of the original nine patents on the computer that all PCs are based upon. And, Dr. Mark Dean is an African American.

So how is it that we can celebrate the 20th anniversary of the IBM personal computer without reading or hearing a single word about him? Given all of the pressure mass media are under about negative portrayals of African Americans on television and in print, you would think it would be a slam dunk to highlight someone like Dr. Dean.

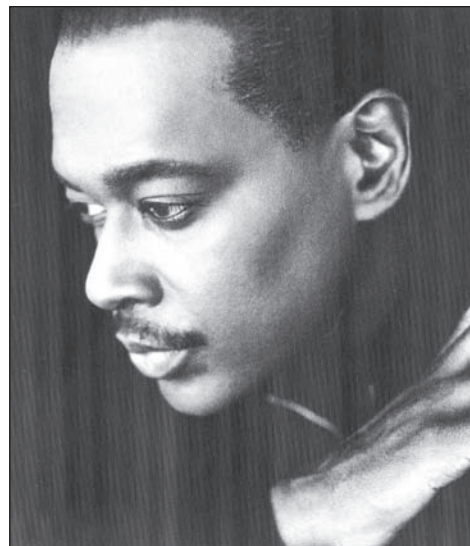
Somehow, though, we have managed to miss the shot. Dr. Dean isn't the first Black inventor to be overlooked. Consider John Stanard, inventor of the refrigerator, George Sampson, creator of the clothes dryer, Alexander Miles and his elevator, Lewis Latimer and the electric lamp. All of these inventors share two things: One, they changed the landscape of our society; and, two, society relegated them to the footnotes of history. Hopefully, Dr. Mark Dean won't go away as quietly as they did. He certainly shouldn't. Dr. Dean helped start a Digital Revolution that created people like Microsoft's Bill Gates and Dell Computer's Michael Dell. Millions of jobs in information technology can be traced back directly to Dr. Dean.

Although technically Dr. Dean can't be credited with creating the computer

— that is left to Alan Turing, a pioneering 20th-century English mathematician, widely considered to be the father of modern computer science — Dr. Dean rightly deserves to take a bow for the machine we use today. The computer really wasn't practical for home or small business use until he came along, leading a team that developed the interior architecture (ISA systems bus) that enables multiple devices, such as modems and printers, to be connected to personal computers.

In other words, because of Dr. Dean, the PC became a part of our daily lives. For most of us, changing the face of society would have been enough. But not for Dr. Dean. Still in his early forties, he has a lot of inventing left in him.

He recently made history again by leading the design team responsible for creating the first 1-gigahertz processor chip. It's just another huge step in making computers faster and smaller. We need to guarantee that the African-American story



is part of the hoopla surrounding the most stunning technological advance the world has ever seen.

### Luther Vandross

Luther Vandross was one of the most successful R&B artists of the 1980s and '90s. He scored a series of multi-million-selling albums containing chart-topping hit singles and performed in sold-out tours in the U.S. and around the world. He was a creative artist who wrote and co-wrote and arranged and produced most of his music for his. He was known for his distinctive interpretations of classic pop and R&B songs, reflecting his knowledge and appreciation of the popular music of his youth. Possessed of a smooth, versatile tenor voice, he charmed millions with his romantic music.

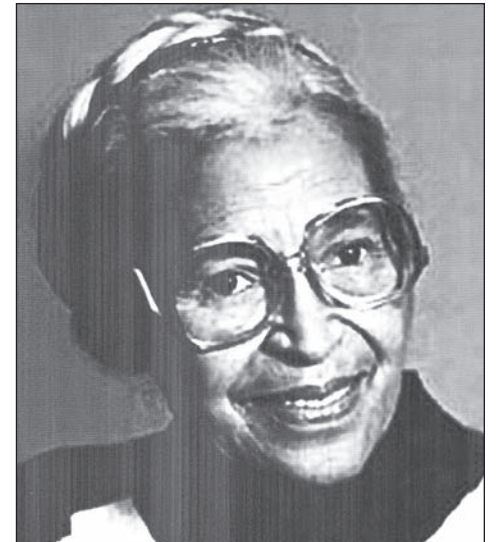
Luther was born in New York City on April 20, 1951. His final album was *Dance with My Father* (2003). Luther suffered from diabetes as well as hypertension. His weight fluctuated several times over the years, and Vandross had weighed over 300 pounds.

On April 16, 2003, Vandross suffered a stroke in his home in Manhattan.

He appeared briefly on videotape at the 2004 Grammy's to accept his Song of the Year award, he was otherwise never seen in public again. Vandross died on July 1, 2005 at John F. Kennedy Medical

Center in Edison, N.J. at the age of 54. It was reported that he died peacefully, surrounded by his family and friends. His funeral was in NYC on July 8, 2005.

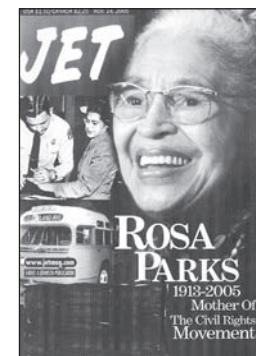
Mr. Vandross sold records in the millions consistently for over two decades. He insisted on reverence for the soul music of the recent past and deliberately reformulated it in an "old-school" approach that came to be known as the black radio format called the "quiet storm." Even as rap dominated the charts in the early years of the 21st century, he maintained his passion for romantic, melodic music, and he drew listeners along with him. His early death at the age of 54 robbed American



popular music of one of its more consistent and compelling voices, and it is only a partial comfort that he left behind a substantial body of work

### Rosa Louise Mc Cauley Parks

Rosa Louise Mc Cauley Parks an African American born on February 4, 1913 and died October 24, 2005. Ms Parks was a seamstress and civil rights activist, who was deemed by U S Congress as the "Mother of the Modern-Day Civil Rights Movement."



Parks is famous for her refusal on December 1, 1955 to obey bus driver's demand to give up and surrender her seat on the bus, to a white passenger. She was arrested and stood trial for this act of civil disobedience which triggered the Montgomery Bus Boycott. This boycott was one of the most significant and largest demonstrations that created the successful mass movements against racial segregation in history, and launched Martin Luther King Jr., to the forefront of the civil rights movement, as the result of his involvement in organizing the boycott.

Her role in American history earned her a symbolic rank in American culture. Her civil disobedience also impacts the philosophy of changing some laws to that do not protect the innocent. Her legacy leaves an impact and example for the need of civil rights movements around the world.

Rosa Parks died on October 24, 2005.



# AWC and WWA Sponsor Tree Lighting

Mild winter weather greeted Southwest at a holiday celebration and tree lighting Dec. 16 at 6th & Water St. SW. Funded by the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation and organized by the Washington Waterfront Association, the event included carolers in costume, Santa in costume, Amidon's choir performing, a US Marine accepting Toys for Tots, food and drink and dignitaries.



Amidon Elementary School students performed "Twelve Nights of Christmas" and other songs.



Eleanor Bacon, center, whose firm is one of the developers chosen to redo the SW waterfront, with Tom D'Amato, President of WWA,



A Marine Corps sergeant with Toys for Tots boxes.



Council Chair Vincent Gray and his wife posed with Santa Claus.



Four carolers in Victorian costumes performed.

**Join us for a beautiful view of the Washington Marina.**

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